

NEWS

From the County of San Bernardino **Josie Gonzales Fifth District**

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APRIL 18, 2006

**JGFDS-PR-153 2006 FY 06-07 CDBG PROJECTS FUNDED
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUPERVISOR GONZALES AWARDS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

SAN BERNARDINO – San Bernardino County Supervisor Josie Gonzales has awarded \$616,000 to fund community revitalization projects and public service programs benefiting the residents of the unincorporated areas of the Fifth District.

Emphasizing support of services for the youth and seniors, Supervisor Gonzales has focused on revitalization projects that will create safer routes to schools and increase pedestrian safety. The public service programs selected will offer county residents assistance in the areas of education, health and nutrition, social outreach and development, and neighborhood beautification.

“Our children should not have to worry about their safety when they walk to and from school,” said 5th District Supervisor Josie Gonzales. “I am an avid supporter of the ‘Safe Routes to School’ program and I will continue to fund similar projects to help ensure the safety of our young people.”

New sidewalks will be installed along Vermont Street, between First and Third Avenues for students attending Vermont Elementary School in Muscoy, as well as the intersections of 7th Street and Cedar Avenue and Jurupa and Cedar Avenues in Bloomington.

Funded public service programs will provide employment, mentoring, educational, personal development and fitness opportunities for the youth, particularly at-risk youth. Seniors will benefit from programs that offer nutritious meals, home repairs services and computer literacy training.

“We must support organizations that are helping our young people realize they have choices in life and that they can lead productive, honest lives. They need to know that despite past hardships, a life of crime is not their only option,” said Gonzales.

In answer to the growing community need for services, Supervisor Gonzales has allocated first time funding for specific programs offered by Galaxy School, Brothers and Sisters in Action, and Libreria Del Pueblo.

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“I have witnessed the work these groups are doing in the community and they deserve county support to increase their outreach,” added Gonzales. “Equally, those we continue to fund have proven their effectiveness in our communities and have earned continued support from the county.”

Fewer dollars were available this fiscal year due to federal budget cuts that reduced annual Community Development Block Grant funds ten percent. Of the \$616,000 allocated to the 5th District, \$392,000 will fund community revitalization projects and \$224,000 will help support 16 public service programs. ([*A complete list of funded projects and programs is attached.*](#))

“If the federal government continues to cut these available funds, as anticipated, we must work in partnership to ensure that these worthy programs do not cease to exist. They provide invaluable services to our communities and we must help them to seek sustainable funding sources,” she said.

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